

Target Group:

It's important to have participants from a variety of stakeholder groups that are concerned about the issue in question. Think about who would benefit most – key civic and political leaders, treatment and recovery community leaders, parents, educators, school administrators, law enforcement officials, and public health officials.

Aim of the Method:

This method is feasible for different key issues: alcohol usage, physical activity, dietary behaviour, smoking, mental health, psychological health

Level of Participation:

Moderate

DESCRIPTION

A community meeting is a public gathering that brings together members of a community to discuss issues, voice concerns, and express preferences for community priorities. In a community meeting, a facilitator leads discussions on issues related to the community's strengths and potential challenges and encourages attendees to vocally participate.

Advantages of community meetings include:

- ▶ Gives people of diverse backgrounds a chance to express their views.
- ▶ Helps to explore potential solutions.
- ▶ Helps to identify respected community leaders to involve in a project.

TIPS FOR THE USERS

Organising a Public Forum:

- ▶ Use an easy-to-find location.
- ▶ Hold it in the evening.
- ▶ Communicate widely.
- ▶ Recruit diverse community members to attend.
- ▶ Provide transportation.
- ▶ Serve light refreshments.

Planning phase:

- Identify your goals.
- Prepare a list of questions.
- Set and state ground rules.
- Take notes and be a good listener.
- Allow for small group discussions.

GOOD TO KNOW:
Some questions worth asking:

- ✓ What are the problems and consequences?
- ✓ Who is affected, and how?
- ✓ Are there related problems and are they widespread?
- ✓ Who could contribute?

MORE ABOUT THE METHOD:

[A guide for the design and conduct of self-administered surveys](#)